

BULLETIN

CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA

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"All the great sources of human suffering are in a great degree, many of them entirely, conquerable by human care and effort."—JOHN STUART MILL.

TO MEMBERS:

THE Southern Child Welfare Conference, under the auspices of the Child Welfare League of America, will be held in Atlanta, March 13 and 14. The sessions will be held in the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, and the first session will begin at 2.30 P. M.

Executives and other representatives of all member agencies of the League, and any who have a professional interest in child welfare work, are invited to attend and participate.

The following topics are to be discussed:

Tuesday, March 13:

2.30 P. M.: Team Work Necessary to Maintain the Normal Family.

Discussion led by J. Prentice Murphy, Philadelphia.

4.15 to 5.30: State Government in Child Welfare.

Discussion led by C. C. Carstens, New York.

6.30 P. M.: Conference Dinner.

Topic 1: What Are the Lowest Terms in a Community's Plan for the Care of Illegitimate Children?

Discussion led by Miss Emma O. Lundberg, Washington, D. C.

Topic 2: Legislation for Children.

Discussion led by Wm. Hodson, Division Child Welfare Legislation, Russell Sage Foundation.

Wednesday, March 14:

9.30 A. M.: What Is Good Health Service in the Care of Dependent Children?

Discussion led by J. Prentice Murphy, Philadelphia.

11.00 to 12.30: The Extension of Boarding Care of Children in Family Homes.

Discussion led by C. C. Carstens, New York.

2.30 P. M.: Social Work in the Schools.

Discussion led by Willis A. Sutton, Atlanta.

4.15 to 5.30: Community Care for Negro Dependent and Delinquent Children.

Discussion led by Dr. W. W. Alexander, Southern Inter-Racial Commission.

WHOM DOES THIS BENEFIT?

A certain Maude Daniels, a theatrical producer, has come to the attention of various members of the League during the last few years, and her name and a few facts

about her method of work are sent to you in order that you may profit by others' experience. In the play entitled "The Rising Generation" she has used a number of children under fourteen years of age.

Last year in Cincinnati she had eight children under fourteen in her one-act vaudeville part, seven of whom were produced in court. Mary C. Daniels, a niece of the producer, on January 6, 1922, testified that she was eleven; and Charles Blake, on the same day, said that he was eleven. Mrs. Daniels, under oath, said that of the ten children in her act only three were over fourteen. Marie Blake, at that time nine, born in Bridgeport, took the part of a little nurse and sang a parody on "Ain't We Got Fun?" She was blonde, with curly hair, and weighed about forty-five pounds. The others under fourteen were James Edward Chubb, nine; Wayne Willis, seven; Dominick and Louis Palumbo, eleven and thirteen respectively; and Richard Farinacci, twelve.

In Toledo, on March 11, 1922, Mrs. Daniels was brought into court and convicted for employing eight children under fourteen, the fines and costs amounting to \$156.96. The following was the children's program in Cincinnati:

Arose at 11 A. M.; dressed, breakfasted, reached the theater at 12; were tutored on the stage from 12 to 1.15 P. M. by a woman who did not know the names of her text-books and used "just anything and everything." At 1.15 began to "make up" for the act; performance, 2.10 to 2.30; amused themselves behind the scenes or watched others act until their next performance; performed 4.37 to 4.57; removed "make up"; went to restaurant for dinner, sometimes to a movie if wanting recreation; "made up"; performed 7.58 to 8.18; behind the scenes again, as "make up" was not removed; performed 10.31 to 10.51; restaurant for supper; reached hotel between 11.40 and 12; retired four in a room.

Mrs. Daniels claims that the New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children had investigated and approved of her methods of care and education of the children. The Society, however, repudiates any such endorsement.

More recently a company of child performers called "Butterflies," under the direction of Charles and Gertude Geoffron, have also been operating in the middle west. The act is billed as a singing and dancing review. When, late in December, 1922, they performed in Chicago, the children were suffering from colds, and all of them had strained and badly used voices. The children's names in Chicago were as follows: Rita Geoffron, six; Pauline Below, eight; Irma Girardio, ten; Winifred Clemons, eleven; Rene Brooks, twelve; Doris Bergin, twelve; Peaches Karsney, thirteen; Homer Geoffron, fourteen; Billie Hindman, fifteen; Ruth Inman, sixteen.

On December 27 judgment was rendered against them under the criminal code of Illinois, and they were given a small fine. All Chicago engagements were cancelled, and they returned to Detroit. The Illinois State Factory Department also took action, and the managers paid \$50 fines and costs.

Wm. McFee starts Book 1 of "Casuals of the Sea" by saying, "Bringing up a family is no joke."

Many foster fathers and mothers have had practical experience. I wonder if social workers sometimes forget it and expect too much.

From the February, 1923, Monthly Bulletin of the Massachusetts Society for Mental Hygiene we quote the following:

"CHERCHEZ LE PARENT"

"It is supposed to be axiomatic of detective stories that the reason for certain crimes or anti-social conduct may be revealed through a policy of '*cherchez la femme*.'"

"Whether this be true or not, it has come to be part of the psychiatrist's creed that '*cherchez le parent*' will disclose the reason for many cases of child behavior or conduct disorders and even adult 'nervousness' and the like.

"Mental hygienists are everywhere stressing the important fact that the foundations for much mental disorder in later life are laid during childhood. The trail in many of these conditions leads directly and inevitably back to the home and to faulty child training. This is why agencies like the Habit Clinics, the Nursery Schools, and the Visiting Teacher movement are valuable in bringing attention to persistent conduct disorders or undesirable habits in very young children and in securing for them prompt and effective treatment.

"In remedying these conditions the psychiatrist finds a complex task on his hands. Instead of treating the patient alone, he finds it first necessary to treat a situation that usually includes several members of the family. Thus in treating six-year-old Louis for 'being afraid of the dark,' it became imperative to first give attention to his well-intentioned but non-understanding mother, who tried to 'break' him of this fear by locking him in a dark clothes closet for half an hour at a time.

"Thus, also, the psychiatrist found in trying to rid four-year-old Susie of constant thumb-sucking that her guardian aunt had carried out some treatment ideas of her own, which included placing the offending thumb against a hot stove.

"In a third instance the psychiatrist tells of a small girl brought to a clinic for habitual lying and petty pilfering. The mother was aghast at the child's incorrigibility until it was discovered that she would lavishly promise candy, movies, or new clothes in an effort to induce the girl to make necessary trips to the dentist or doctor, but with no intention of fulfilling such promises. It was likewise discovered that the child had on several occasions watched the mother extract small change from the pockets of her sleeping husband, and had been taught by the mother how to squirm into a crowded street car and avoid paying the conductor her fare.

"These cases are not uncommon. They are happening every day all around us. And while we do not mean to dogmatically insist that every child with a

behavior or habit disorder will become an adult invalid or delinquent, we do know that many such conditions commenced under situations similar to the above.

"On the shoulders of the parents rests the responsibility of not only decently clothing, housing, and schooling the child, but seeing that he or she is not started out in life with a burden of fixed and unwholesome habits and tendencies which will handicap him in competition with others, and which may cause him to finally seek refuge and solace from his failure in that Nirvana of the beaten, a 'nervous breakdown.'

"'*Cherchez le Parent*' then becomes a tragic truism."

SUNLIGHT AND RICKETS

In a recent number of the "Manchester Guardian" weekly, Dr. C. W. Saleeby tells his fellow-countrymen of the experiments that Dr. Hess has been carrying on at the Hebrew Infant Asylum in New York. He describes the main findings of the experiments with sunlight and rickets with all the more confidence, since some of them have been confirmed in Vienna by highly qualified English physicians, headed by Dr. Harriette Chick.

"First: Alike in experimental animals and in infants and young children, rickets can be and is prevented and cured, with the utmost constancy and extraordinary speed, by exposure to sunlight; even though the subjects be fed on diets which, without sunlight, invariably and speedily produce the disease.

"Second: In New York the incidence of new cases of rickets rises and falls throughout the year in strict correspondence with the seasonal height that the sun attains in the sky. The more sunlight the less rickets, and vice versa. Further, not only the monthly curve of rickets, but also the monthly curve of the amount of phosphorus in the blood of babies, corresponds precisely with the monthly or seasonal variations in sunlight. There is thus a 'winter ebb' and a 'summer flow' of phosphates; but this, which is the first demonstration ever made of a relation between sunlight and the composition of the blood, does not appear to occur in the blood of adults.

"Some substance must be made in the skin (the highly pigmented and chemically active skin) under the influence of the sunlight, which enters the blood and enables it to 'fix' or hold the precious salts of the diet as it otherwise could not."

"During the war the underfeeding of millions caused a predisposition to tuberculosis among growing children throughout Europe. The difficulties in the way of building up health by careful nutrition gave an immense impetus to the use of open-air treatment of anemia, rickets, and scrofula. The treatment provided for by the schools at Frankfort o. M. is described as follows:

"During the school vacations, boys and girls separately attend daily from nine till noon, to play, drill, and rest on lawns railed off for their use in children's camps. They are gradually inured to cool air and grilling sun to prevent catching colds and blistering. Owing to the increase of rickets, arrangements have been made to provide sun baths in their own neighborhood for infants and children under school age and living far from the camp.

"The effect, especially in the case of rickets, is almost miraculous. Little children, earlier in the season carried

by their mothers or older sisters, run about merrily, and their bone deformities are improved; children formerly subject to colds are immune to such attacks. Another result is the expansion of the chest, a great factor in the prevention of tuberculosis.

"In cities such as Leipzig, where there are only about fifty sunny days in the year, the child hospitals are equipped with an apparatus for the production of 'artificial Alpine sunlight tan.' The most important feature is the exposure of the child's skin to the sunlight."—*International Record*, December, 1922.

At the request of the League, the Children's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor will send a copy of the pamphlet entitled, "Child Labor in the United States, Ten Questions Answered," to each one of our members who have not already received it from the Bureau.

The Boston Children's Aid Association has permitted the League to make copies of the directions that relate to its evaluation record of case work, Enclosure No. 2 of last month, and any members who care to have a copy of these directions may receive it by application to this office.

PREVENTIVE SOCIAL SERVICE

"A decade ago ophthalmia neonatorum was rated the cause of a third of all blindness. The Massachusetts Charitable Eye and Ear Infirmary used to have 20 or more pathetic little gropers under their care all of the time.

"Then came the law requiring the reporting of all new-born babies with inflamed or discharging eyes. The State Department of Public Health was authorized to provide prophylactic free, and the law further required that it be used. The State Department of Public Welfare, supervising all lying-in hospitals, made the keeping of the license conditional upon full compliance with this law.

"In 1921 the State Department of Health distributed 54,176 doses of prophylactic. The Division for the Blind reports: "Although several infants have had some damage to one eye, we have not had a case reported nor have we been able to learn, through inquiry of health officials, of any case of blindness from ophthalmia neonatorum during the past year."—From Bulletin 8, Boston Council of Social Agencies.

CHILD WELFARE NEWS

In order that those who issue licenses for marriage in Minnesota and those who perform the ceremony may know the names of persons who have been definitely found to be feeble-minded and have been committed to the guardianship of the State Board of Control, the Children's Bureau has published a printed list, under date of November 1, 1922, of 1,194 persons, giving their name, their date of birth, their sex, the name of parent or guardian, the county where committed, and the date of commitment.

The Judge Baker Foundation is publishing a series of twenty case studies which should be of the greatest value to all those who have to deal with the problems of young people. These studies represent different types of individuals, of causation, of treatment, etc.,

and each one is published in a separate pamphlet. The material has been very carefully worked up from cases that have been studied over a course of years by Dr. Healy and Dr. Bronner, and each case contains much discussion by the authors which bears upon the understanding and treatment of delinquency. The publication of these cases has been made possible through a gift from The Commonwealth Fund of New York. Eight studies are now ready for distribution; the remaining numbers in the series will appear periodically, approximately two each month. Single subscription for a series is \$2.50. On an order for ten or more series the price is \$2.00 for each series. Send subscription to the Judge Baker Foundation, 40 Court Street, Boston, Massachusetts.

During 1921 and 1922, 1,211 children were brought to Canada through the Canadian Department of Immigration and Colonization: 374 of these by the Dr. Bernardo Organization, 250 by the Salvation Army, 225 by the Catholic Emigration Association, and the balance by seven other organizations.

"The emigration of children from Great Britain to Canada is promoted by a number of highly accredited British organizations, all of which have, at very considerable financial outlay, established well-equipped Receiving and Distributing Homes for the children in Canada. These institutions are located in the provinces of Nova Scotia, Ontario, Quebec, and Manitoba, and maintain control over the children as legal guardians until they have reached an age of full responsibility. The interests of the public are further guarded by an effective and recurrent Government inspection of each boy and girl until it reaches its nineteenth year, a portion of the cost of which inspection is borne by the British Government under arrangement to that end."

In a pamphlet entitled the "Development of Public Protection of Children in Kansas," by Miss Nina Swanson, she calls attention to the fact that the law providing for mothers' pensions was definitely expressed in principle in the Kansas Laws of 1862. At that time provision was made that the County Commissioners might make an allowance to parents of idiots and of children otherwise helpless, requiring the attention of parents who were unable to support them.

A "Children's Enclosure," where many kinds of games can be shared in with public safety, exists in the Bermondsey District of London. It consists of a large cage of wire netting in which boys can play foot-ball and cricket and girls tennis, badminton, and similar games without fear of breaking neighbors' windows. Bermondsey is notoriously a congested area. The dimensions of the cage are about 150 feet by 80 feet.

The Children's Aid Society of the city of New York is seventy years old this year. It now maintains a placing-out department, ten school centers for handicapped children, six sanatoria in the country and by the sea, a medical bureau for medical and mental examinations of children requiring convalescent or permanent care, and four Shelters for boys and girls. During the past year it placed 265 orphans and deserted children in family homes; 102 children were legally adopted; 134 were assisted to go West with their parents.

ENCLOSURES

The enclosures this month are:

1. The October and December numbers of the "Iowa Children's Home Herald." The latter contains a reprint of an important article on "Undesirable Habits," by Dr. Jessie Taft.
2. Pamphlet entitled "Child Welfare in the Rural Field," by Miss H. Ida Curry.
3. "A Child Saved—A Citizen Made," published by the Texas Children's Home and Aid Society, together with a map of their work in Texas.

LIBRARY LIST NUMBER 17

BOOKS

1. Boles, Albert Sidney. Putnam's Handy Law Book for the Layman. 1921.
Inevitably its contents deal more expressly with commercial matters, but it also includes a discussion of the adopted child, the relations of husband and wife, of parent and child, etc. It discusses the fundamental principles and their adaptation and modification in various states.
2. Gruenberg, Benjamin C., Editor. Outlines of Child Study, a Manual for Parents and Teachers. 1922.
The book has an introduction by Edward L. Thorndike, in which he states: "Especially valuable are the sections on concrete aspects of human behavior, such as Toys, Manners, the Use of Money, Pets and Plants, and Hobbies, which the ordinary manuals of Child Study have relatively neglected."
While the book is mainly designed for parents and teachers, its carefully worked-out topics and its bibliographies should be particularly valuable to all forward-looking matrons of Receiving Homes and their assistants.
3. McMillan, Margaret. The Nursery School. 1921.
This book has a foreword by Professor Patty Smith Hill. It is based on the English experience with the nursery school, where it has made more progress than in this country, and where its development was included in Lord Fisher's educational program, that is now suspended, we hope only temporarily.
4. Nursery Schools. 1920.
A practical handbook, with chapters by Miss McMillan, Miss Owen, and other leaders in this movement in England.
5. Patri, Angelo. Child Training. 1922.
Mr. Patri is Principal of Public School No. 45 of New York City. His homely good sense has made his advice and his stories about the child at school and at home well known through its publication in many newspapers.
This book gathers together its paragraphs in a systematic form. Various parts of the book deal with The Child in the Home, The Child at School, Building the Child's Character, Moral Training, Adolescence, Vacation Time, etc.
6. Persons, W. Frank. Central Financing of Social Agencies. 1922.
Mr. Persons has sought to answer for the Columbus (O.) Advisory Council the question, "May central financing of social agencies be accomplished with social, educational, and financial advantages to the community, and without limiting or impairing the

freedom of purpose and of action of the constituent social agencies?"

The problem of central financing has already affected the work of a number of our members and will doubtless have an influence on many others during the next few years.

In 1917 the subject was discussed by Mr. Francis H. McLean in the book entitled "Financial Federations." Mr. Persons' study brings us up to date.

7. Terman, Lewis M., and others. Intelligence Tests and School Reorganization. 1923.

This contains a description of experiments that have been undertaken in various parts of the country, where intelligence tests have been made to contribute in the development of school programs and school adjustments. One chapter deals with The Conservation of Talent, another one with The Significance of Mental Tests in Corrective and Adjustment Cases.

PAMPHLETS

1. Achievement of Subnormal Children in Standardized Educational Tests, The. By J. E. Wallace Wallin.
This is the April, 1922, Bulletin of Miami University. The tests relate to spelling, oral reading and arithmetic.
2. Child Labor in the United States.
One of the most successful pamphlets of the Children's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor. It answers ten questions relating to child labor and is well illustrated by charts and maps.
3. Family Budgets of American Wage-Earners.
This is Research Report No. 41 of the National Industrial Conference Board. It contains a history of the study of budgets for the country as a whole, an explanation of local studies, and a discussion of incomes and expenditures, of the cost of living and wage adjustment as relating to the present and immediate past.
4. Outline of the Cleveland Crime Survey. By Ray Moley.
This was published by the Cleveland Foundation, under whose auspices the crime survey was made. The conditions described were those of the first half of the year 1921. Many changes, both in personnel and method, have since taken place, partly, at least, as a result of the survey. The directors of the survey were Roscoe Pound and Felix Frankfurter, both of Harvard University.
5. Physical Status of Pre-School Children.
This is a study based upon findings in Gary, Indiana, by Dr. Anna E. Rude. It is Bureau Publication No. 111, of the Children's Bureau. The astounding statement is found that 95.2 of the children of pre-school age were found with disease or defects, leaving 4.8 of the children without defects. The boys on the whole showed a slightly higher percentage than the girls—96.9 compared with 93.6. The large proportion of boys with genital defects, 47.1, unquestionably accounts largely for this variation.

CHANGES FOR DIRECTORY

TENNESSEE.—Children's Home Society; Mrs. Isaac Reese to succeed Mrs. Claude D. Sullivan, resigned.

C. C. CARSTENS, *Director*